

News Column for Use Week of 10/14/19  
Jordan Schuette, Extension Agent: 4-H Youth Development  
River Valley Extension District  
10/11/19

### **New 4-H Year and National 4-H Week**

Tuesday, October 1<sup>st</sup> marked the beginning of the new 4-H year. This means online enrollment is now open for youth to join 4-H in the four counties of the River Valley Extension District. The District participates in open enrollment which means our enrollment period does not have a deadline. However, if youth want to participate in the fair, they must be enrolled in 4-H by May 1, 2020. If you are interested in joining 4-H or re-enrolling for the new 4-H year, visit: <https://www.rivervalley.k-state.edu/4-h/join.html> or contact your local Extension Office.

National 4-H Week was held October 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>, and it helps kick-off the beginning of the new 4-H year. This annual event is designed to celebrate the positive impact 4-H has on youth and their communities. National 4-H Week also provided an opportunity for 4-H youth, volunteers, families, and alumni to raise awareness about 4-H in their community. This year's theme was *Inspire Kids to Do*, which encouraged youth to engage in hands-on learning experiences in areas of community service, agriculture, science, and health.

Last week, the four counties of the River Valley District participated in several National 4-H Week events such as: 4-H Sunday, Spirit Day, and 48 Hours of 4-H. Some 4-H Clubs started National 4-H Week off by celebrating 4-H Sunday either as a Club or as a County. 4-H Junior Leaders or 4-H Ambassadors throughout the District also asked their County Commissioners to sign a National 4-H Week Proclamation, proclaiming October 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> as National 4-H Week.

Spirit Day was held on Tuesday, October 8<sup>th</sup> where 4-H youth and adults were encouraged to wear a 4-H shirt to school, work, and around the community. Some 4-H Clubs created window displays and were encouraged to share photos on the River Valley 4-H Facebook page. National 4-H Week came to an end with 4-H Clubs participating in 48 hours of 4-H on October 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. This event focused on 4-H'ers participating in 48 hours of community service, such as: picking up trash, painting, etc.

Thank you to all those who participated in National 4-H Week events. It is exciting to see those around the River Valley District celebrating their Clubs, communities, and 4-H. If you are interested in learning more about 4-H, or if you are interested in how you can join a 4-H Club close to you, please contact your local Extension Office. To learn more about 4-H in the River Valley District contact 4-H Agent Jordan Schuette at 785-527-5084 or [jschuette@ksu.edu](mailto:jschuette@ksu.edu).